From: James Ashberry
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/4/02 10:21am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

The Microsoft settlement does nothing except expand Microsft's monopoly into the education market where Apple and others still have significant claim. By allowing Microsoft to infiltrate these markets through donations, whilst seeming on the surface to be a good will gesture, is nothing but a mass infestation of Windows based machines into the education sector.

In addition, the figure Microsoft have claimed it will spend will be greatly smaller, as software's retail value is far higher than the actual financial impact it will have on Microsoft.

Microsoft should be made to donate the cash to the education agencies within the United States, and the cash should be used at the discretion of the schools and areas involved. This way schools will benefit, have freedom of choice, and Microsoft is made to pay.

Allowing Microsoft's proposed settlement to go through is not only folly, but will make a mockery of the US and the US justice system.

James Ashberry Internet Developer United Kingdom jdashberry@mac.com